



## Cumberland Community Action Program, Inc.



eNews

March 2011

### NC Office of Economic Recovery and Investment Visits WAP

Former Representative Bob Etheridge, currently serving as the Director of the North Carolina Office of Economic Recovery and Investment, chose CCAP's Weatherization Assistance Program to see first-hand the operations and results from ARRA funded programs.

Etheridge discussed the program and its future goals with WAP Director Stephanie Ashley, Program Manager LaShonda Scott, Energy Auditor Terrence Reyes, and CCAP CEO Cynthia Wilson. The group then invited Etheridge and Martha Are of the North Carolina Governor's staff to tour a home being weatherized and a home that is completed.

Etheridge is currently visiting selected programs throughout the state to gather information about future funding levels.

*Pictured below: Energy Auditor, Terrence Reyes, explains the weatherization process to Mr. Etheridge.*



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## Head Start is Making Pancakes



One Head Start classroom recently enjoyed learning about pancakes, reading *If You Give a Pig A Pancake*. The students then discussed how to make pancakes with their teachers, Ms. Askew and Ms. McCrery. The hands-on teachers assisted students in making pancakes of various shapes and sizes which they topped with fruit. They began to learn about measuring and mixing, shapes, numbers, and nutrition. Hats off to these teachers and students who find creative ways to learn and engage daily!

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## SHFB Holds First Mobile Food Pantry Distribution Event



Lumberton resident Gloria Dove picks up some food from the distribution event. "There are a lot of hungry people around here and this mobile pantry is a great thing," she said.

Fresh, local and nutritious food is now more readily available to Robeson County residents due to Second Harvest Food Bank of Southeast North Carolina's (SHFB) new mobile food pantry.

"There's a definite need for this type of thing," said SHFB Operations Manager Gideon Adams said. "There are many Robeson County residents that live in very rural and relatively depressed areas where they do not have the means to physically travel to a distribution center to receive food. With the mobile food pantry, we can go to them."

The mobile food pantry is made possible by an infrastructure grant through Feeding America, a national hunger-relief charity. The grant has allowed for the purchase of a new state of the art distribution truck to increase services to Robeson County.

The new truck will provide convenience in delivering the food and unloading it, as it can be loaded using forklifts and offloaded by hand. No heavy lifting equipment is needed on site to remove and hand out the food.

The truck also has specific storage areas on board for dry good, frozen foods and fresh produce.

The first official food distribution event was held in at the Robeson Church and Community Center in Lumberton and was a success.

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## Thirty-seven years of service, Kay Tarpley Retires



Pictured above: Kay Tarpley stands with the CCAP Board of Directors at her retirement party. Staff, Board members and friends gathered to wish Kay well and express heartfelt gratitude. After countless accomplishments, positions, and a significant impact, Kay is retiring after 37 years at CCAP. She will be greatly missed.

## Head Start Center Earns Five Star Rating

The Southern Avenue Head Start Center recently received a 5-STAR rating during a review of their star rated license. The star rating is granted by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development.

Head Start wishes to thank the program management team, on-site supervisors, all early head start and preschool child services staff, transportation and facilities team, family services coordinators and advocates, clerical support, eligibility and enrollment, nutrition staff, health staff, special needs staff, CCAP finance office, CCAP human resource office, CCAP communication office, and CCAP CEO Cynthia Wilson.

Achieving excellence has become the Head Start standard and requires a tremendous amount of time, energy and resources for which Head Start is grateful.

Congratulations Head Start!



CCAP CEO gives a speech at the opening of Southern Avenue Head Start Center.

## Local Resident Warms up with Weatherization Assistance Program

Every time she came home from church, Louellen Owens stayed bundled up in her coat while she turned on the multiple kerosene heaters that kept her from freezing throughout the winter.

Owens home was so cold at times that she almost didn't want to leave, because she knew for safety reasons she had to turn off the kerosene heaters and her home would be frigidly cold when she returned.

"I'd leave to go to church and that was about it," Owens explained. "My home was so uncomfortable that I could not even take a shower to get warm."

Through the Department of Aging Owens found out about the Weatherization Assistance Program. She was accepted into the program and received weatherization services on her home.

Her heating and air conditioning units were replaced, air leaks were sealed, and she received a new refrigerator, among other improvements.

According to Owens, her utility bills are much lower and she is staying much warmer.

"My bills were upwards of \$200 before and now they are much lower," she said. "This program is truly a lifesaver. I sing in the church choir and I tell everyone there about this wonderful program. It's really the best thing that could have happened to me."

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## ASPIRE Participant Gains Employment, Education

After Julia Brown signed up for the ASPIRE program and walked into her first informative meeting, her main objective was to find out about employment opportunities. Little did she know, that her quest for employment would lead to much more.

Initially, Brown's case manager, Maria Newland suggested she start volunteering while she was looking for work. Brown began to volunteer with Head Start office and assisted with typing, filing and other tasks.

"It was a good thing for me to do," Brown said. "I'd volunteer three days a week from eight to noon and on the days I wasn't volunteering I was job searching."

In addition to volunteering, Brown decided to go back to school with the encouragement of Newland.

"You know at first I wasn't so sure about school," Brown said. "I really wanted to focus on employment instead, but I decided school would be a good thing to look into and I'm glad I did."

Shortly after enrolling at Fayetteville Technical Community College as a full-time student she was offered a part-time temporary program support aide position with Head Start which soon lead to a full-time permanent position.

"I was working full-time and was a full-time student and at the end of the semester I found out I had made the President's list," she said. "All the hard work is paying off."

Brown is pursuing a degree in criminal justice and said she hopes to make the president's list in spring semester as well.

Coming this month, a new ASPIRE in Action center online to follow the progress of participants, see how the program works, hear what the case managers think about the program, and get involved in SAVING CSBG and ASPIRE from potential state and federal budget cuts. You can find the ASPIRE in ACTION center at [www.ccap-inc.org](http://www.ccap-inc.org) in the coming weeks!



Julia Brown

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## Head Start Employees Gain Credentials, Bachelor Degree

Wanda Davis, Head Start Teacher Assistant/ Bus Monitor at Lake Rim received her Child Development Associate's Credentials during March. Congratulations on your achievement Wanda!





# Need Cash?

Tax time is when you can collect  
**Earned Income**  
**Tax Credit** dollars.

Ask your tax preparer or contact  
 Consumer Credit Counseling Service  
 at 910.323.3192.

▶ [Click Here](#) for more information.

910.323.3192 | 888.381.3720 | [www.ccap-inc.org/cccs](http://www.ccap-inc.org/cccs)

## MoneySmarts

Tune in to 640AM WFNC Talk Radio Wednesday's at 9:00 am for Money Smarts with Patricia Tyson, Director of Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Fayetteville. Learn about better ways to handle your money and call in for financial advice during this half hour radio show. Special Projects Manager, Esther Acker is a regular guest offering additional advice and knowledge.

Call in with your questions today. You can also submit questions in advance by email to [MoneySmarts@ccap-inc.org](mailto:MoneySmarts@ccap-inc.org).

You can reach WFNC at (910) 864-6400.

## Get The Latest CCAP News Instantly!



CCAP is now sharing published news stories about our programs that you may be interested! You can follow the CCAP News Feed by clicking on the link below, or accessing the feed from the Press Room at [www.ccap-inc.org](http://www.ccap-inc.org).

## Verizon Employee Discount

You can save 8% off your Verizon Wireless bills as a CCAP employee! There is no need to start a new account, existing customers can take advantage of this discount too!

Contact the local representative, Mary Baskerville, at [mary.baskerville@VerizonWireless.com](mailto:mary.baskerville@VerizonWireless.com) or register your current account at [www.verizonwireless.com/getdiscount](http://www.verizonwireless.com/getdiscount). You will need to enter your CCAP email address to apply the discount to your plan.

## CCCS Poster Contest a Success with 39 entries

Consumer Credit Counseling Service sponsored a poster contest in



conjunction with the National Foundation for Credit Counseling. The national contest aimed to get school children thinking about saving money with the theme, "Be A Superhero! Save Money!" Prizes include a \$100 savings bond for first place, followed by \$50, and \$25 savings bonds for second and third place with \$100 to the winning student's classroom. Winning posters were submitted to the national contest. The national winner receives a \$500 savings bond and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC.



Winners are as follows:

#### Grades 3-5

- 1st place - Sienna Laura Gomez, 5th Grade, E.E. Miller Elementary
- 2nd place - Kyjah Allen, 5th Grade, E.E. Miller Elementary
- 3rd place - Jada Releford, 3rd Grade, E.E. Miller Elementary

#### Grades 6-8

- 1st place - Azi Leggestt-Jones, 8th Grade, Spring Lake Middle
- 2nd place - Bryan Mellow, 7th Grade, Westover Middle

#### Grades 9-12

- 1st place - Demiyah Randall, 11th Grade, Cross Creek Early College
- 2nd place - Rachel Strong, 11th Grade, Northwood Temple Academy
- 3rd place - Harris Hamed, 10th Grade, Cross Creek Early College

Thank you to our judges Crystal McNail, United Way; Emily Polley, Fascinate U Children's Museum; and David Mercurio, NC Arts Council.

For more information about the poster contest, visit [www.moneywisepostercontest.org](http://www.moneywisepostercontest.org).

## Fayetteville State University Completes Needs Assessment for Self-Sufficiency Program

Fayetteville State University completed a Needs Assessment for ASPIRE Self-Sufficiency Program to identify the ways in which ASPIRE can better serve their clients. The process included surveys that were completed by many traditionally under-resourced individuals. The results of this assessment will be used to benefit future ASPIRE clients. Special thanks to Michael J. DeValve, Ph.D., Assistant Professor Department of Criminal Justice; Melissa L. Lyon, Service Learning Program Manager; Leslie Dawn Quick; Kayre Chatellier; and Natalie Parrish for all the hard work put into the effort.

## CCCS Offers Free Tax Preparation



It's tax time again and Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Fayetteville will be providing free tax assistance for low to moderate income taxpayers and disabled individuals that have a family income below \$50,000 through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA).

Volunteers will provide free tax preparation assistance now through April 18th, 2011 in the Fayetteville, Smithfield, Kinston, Goldsboro, and Southern Pines offices. Fayetteville hours are Monday through Friday by appointment only, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Smithfield hours are Friday, 9am to 2pm and Goldsboro will provide services on Wednesdays from 9am -3pm. Kinston will be open on Tuesdays from 9am -2pm, and Southern Pines will provide tax service on Friday from 9am -2pm.

To schedule an appointment please contact us at (888) 381-3720/(910) 323-3192 or email us at [cccsfayetteville@ccap-inc.org](mailto:cccsfayetteville@ccap-inc.org).

## New HIRES

The greatest asset in the CCAP family is the staff and volunteers. Every employee comes to the table with the specific skills necessary to bring about the change in the lives of those we touch through the various programs and services.

CCAP welcomes our new employees during the months of February and March 2011:

- Sandra Sutton, Self-Sufficiency
- Lemesy Williams, Head Start

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## GET INVOLVED TODAY!

### Dogwood Festival Volunteers Needed

SHFB has the pleasure of participating in the Dogwood Festival again this year and will receive a percentage of the proceeds from the sale of beverages. We will be manning 4 locations at the festival and are calling for volunteers April 29 through May 1. Please call Laura Henry or Adrienne Brown at (910) 485-6923 for more information or to sign up.

### Belk Charity Day Sale

Purchase a coupon from Second Harvest to use on April 16 that could save you up to 70% on your purchases! Purchase your ticket today by calling SHFB at (910) 485-6923. Tickets are only \$5 and all of the money raised goes directly to SHFB. [Click here](#) for more information.

### Fayetteville Duck Derby

Sponsor your duck today for the Fayetteville Duck Derby benefiting SHFB partner, Fayetteville Urban Ministries. Ducks are \$5 to adopt and can be purchased by contacting SHFB at (910) 485-6923. Don't miss out on this event! [Click here](#) for more information.

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